



## DATCP lifts all avian influenza infected premises quarantines

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**Media Contacts:** [Raechelle Belli](#), 608-224-5005  
[Bill Cosh](#), Communications Director, 608-224-5020

MADISON, Wisc.— The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) announced today the release of all quarantines on premises affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) earlier this year.

The Department has lifted the quarantines on the final six premises, including four in Barron County and two in Jefferson County.

“We are happy that these producers can now restock their barns and resume business,” says Dr. Paul McGraw, Wisconsin State Veterinarian. “But we are also still concerned that the disease may reappear in the fall months,” he says.

When temperatures begin to drop and wild birds begin to migrate south for the winter, animal health officials fear that the virus may cause similar disease issues. So, McGraw is reminding backyard poultry owners and commercial producers alike to continue with proper biosecurity measures to minimize the possibility of infection.

“Now is not the time to stop all the prevention techniques you’ve implemented, even though we’d like to all think that Wisconsin is completely free of the disease. As long as the virus might still be in the environment, we need to stay focused on prevention,” McGraw says.

To minimize the impact on the poultry industry, McGraw warns all bird owners to cover all outdoor poultry feed or relocate it to covered storage, prevent contact between their birds and wild birds, and report sick birds or unusual bird deaths to your veterinarian and DATCP’s Animal Health division at 1-800-572-8981.

The Division of Animal Health is scheduling industry meetings for September to provide an overview of the HPAI outbreak and address questions from poultry producers. Dates and times are still being determined. Information about the upcoming meetings and a variety of other avian influenza resources can be found on DATCP’s web site at [datcp.wi.gov/Animals/Animal\\_Diseases/Avian\\_Influenza](http://datcp.wi.gov/Animals/Animal_Diseases/Avian_Influenza).

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